

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE

17 March 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 17 March 1969

[REDACTED]

25X1

Godfrey reported that Moscow and Peking are reinforcing their military positions around the disputed island in the Ussuri River. He

[REDACTED]

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\*Godfrey reported that the memorandum on world student unrest has now been completed. The Director asked Godfrey to prepare a brief transmittal memorandum to Attorney General Mitchell.

DD/S reported that he was in touch with Marine Headquarters and suggested that General Cushman's schedule be arranged so that he will have at least one day of Agency briefings prior to appearing on the Hill for confirmation. The Director endorsed this as a good idea and noted that General Cushman will not be leaving his present post until 26 March.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Carver reported that activity in Vietnam was brisk over the weekend and that the enemy is making full use of the DMZ.

Carver reported that OER did a first-class job in reacting to requirements for comments on the MACV memorandum. He noted that comments have been cabled to Saigon following a Saturday night work session.

Carver reported that he will be seeing Secretary Laird this morning.

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X1 [ ] reported that [ ] did an excellent job in briefing Congressman McCarthy on Soviet BW/CW capabilities.

X1 [ ] related that Maury and the DD/S&T are absent this morning because of their appearance before Senator McIntyre's subcommittee on R&D.

X1 [ ] reported that Senator Russell may question a sensitive project which was the subject of the last release from the Reserve. The Director asked the ADD/S&T to see him on this matter.

X1 [ ] noted that the Director is still scheduled to appear before the full Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee at 1:30 p.m. this afternoon.

DD/P reported that memorial services for Allen Dulles are being held in Paris today, with participants consisting of former Resistance colleagues of Mr. Dulles'.

After some discussion of probable topics, the Director asked that the DD/I, Bruce Clarke, and Carver accompany him to this afternoon's session with the full Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Director asked that the DD/S&T and Bruce Clarke accompany him to tomorrow morning's hearing before the Rivers committee and that the DD/I stand by for possible participation in the afternoon.

\*The Director noted that he attended an NRO Executive Committee meeting last Friday. He described the meeting as essentially organizational in purpose and alerted Bross to plans to hold an NRO meeting shortly after 1 April. The Director suggested that Dr. DuBridge be invited to the Agency for a luncheon briefing.

\*The Director briefed on Saturday morning's NSC meeting and observed that it was devoted almost exclusively to reaffirming U. S. policy with respect to disarmament and nuclear test ban matters. The Director asked the ADD/S&T to touch base with D/OSI and to determine how recently we have fully examined our techniques for estimating Soviet nuclear capabilities. The Director asked whether the DD/S&T Nuclear Energy Panel had reviewed our estimative techniques.

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The Director noted that following Saturday's NSC meeting he sat in on an informal briefing by Secretary Laird and General Wheeler on their recent visit to Vietnam. He observed that Secretary Laird had spent two hours with President Thieu offering advice on how to raise political funds and related support.

The Director related that General Wheeler anticipates no escalation of our commitments in Laos, and the DD/P observed that he will provide his field with appropriate guidance.

The Director observed that Secretary Rogers recently met with a group of newspaper editors and that reports of the Secretary's high praise for the Agency are filtering back to him.

The Director took note of the Sunday New York Times article quoting him on the orientation of ChiCom radars.



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*for* L. K. White

\*Extracted and sent to action officer

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## CONFLICT MOUNTS ON SENTINEL PLAN

Continued From Page 1, Col. 1

had been heard on whether to deploy the Sentinel. The Armed Services Committee then promised to hear outside, independent witnesses on the issue.

The Sentinel critics may have been strengthened by the President's decision to proceed with a modified system, reoriented to provide protection for strategic missile and bomber bases.

Until now in its "educational" hearings, the Foreign Relations Disarmament Subcommittee has had to contend with an ill-defined target because neither the subcommittee nor the witnesses knew what kind of a system the Administration would recommend. Now the

subcommittee has a precise target to shoot at in the weeks ahead.

### 'Battle Not Over'

Senator Albert Gore, Democrat of Tennessee, the subcommittee chairman, said today, "This battle is not over by any means."

He charged that President Nixon's Sentinel proposal was "but the camel's nose under the tent," leading to a thicker, much more costly antimissile defense.

Among the questions to be explored by the subcommittee are the following:

¶Has the nation's retaliatory capability been imperiled by the recent build-up in Soviet offensive strength or can the United States wait before deciding to protect its retaliatory forces?

¶If the retaliatory forces need protection, is an antimissile defense the best way, or are there other more efficient and cheaper ways, such as hardening Minutemen missile

silos, deploying more Minutemen and Polars missiles, or placing more strategic bombers on airborne alert?

¶By defending Minutemen bases and developing multiple warheads for the missiles, is the United States not engaging in a provocative act of seeming to acquire a first-strike capability, thus triggering a further build-up in Soviet defensive and offensive power in the nuclear arms race?

¶By deploying an antimissile defense system and developing multiple warheads for offensive missiles, might not the Soviet Union and the United States be throwing away perhaps their last opportunity to limit their strategic arms race?

Once the two sides acquire multiple warheads, it will become extremely difficult if not impossible to monitor a strategic arms agreement with reconnaissance satellites.

The subcommittee will also explore the seemingly contra-

dictory intelligence information being offered by the Administration in support of its decision.

At a news conference yesterday, President Nixon said that the Soviet Union was reorienting its antimissile defense system around Moscow to give it an anti-Chinese capability. Contradictory information was reported to have been supplied the Foreign Relations Committee two weeks ago by Richard C. Helms, Director of Central Intelligence.

Rumblings of discontent have been added in the Senate over the Nixon Administration's approach to the Vietnam peace talks.

Senator Fulbright said this week that he was "extremely disappointed" with the Administration's handling of the war and the peace negotiations, and Senator George S. McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota, one of the leading opponents of the war, scheduled a major speech

next week in the Senate on Vietnam.

The Sentinel critics have largely been critics of the Vietnam war as well. But a coalescing of the two issues seems to be developing in a way that could mean stormy weather on Capitol Hill for the Administration.

The issues are likely to be joined next Friday when Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird appears before the Gore panel. Ostensibly, Mr. Laird is to testify on the Sentinel, but Senator Gore is making clear that Mr. Laird will also encounter questions on Vietnam.

Mr. Laird is finding himself caught in the jurisdictional rivalry between the Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees. On Wednesday he will appear before the Armed Services Committee to present the Defense Secretary's annual "posture" statement and to explain the Sentinel decision.

## CONFLICT MOUNTS ON SENTINEL PLAN IN 2 SENATE UNITS

Armed Services Committee  
in Jurisdiction Fight With  
Foreign Relations Panel

### HEARINGS OVERLAPPING

Nixon's Modified Missile Net  
Intensifies Disagreement  
and Rivalry of Groups

By JOHN W. FINNEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 15—President Nixon's decision to proceed with a modified antimissile defense system has set the stage for a power struggle between two dominant Senate institutions—the Foreign Relations Committee and the Armed Services Committee.

It is around these two prestigious groups that a debate will swirl, with the Armed Services Committee the defender of the Sentinel system and the Foreign Relations Committee the critic.

In a chamber bound by personal loyalties and traditional committee jurisdictions, it had been considered almost unthinkable that the two panels should lock horns and that the Foreign Relations Committee should encroach upon the military domain of the Armed Services Committee.

### Interests Broadened

However, in the last several months, as the Sentinel debate developed, the Foreign Relations Committee broadened its interests to include military matters, particularly the antimissile issue.

The Armed Services Committee then held hearings on the "military implications" of the treaty to halt the spread of nuclear weapons while the Foreign Relations Committee examined the "foreign policy and strategic implications" of military decisions, such as the Sentinel deployment.

The Foreign Relations Committee has not limited itself to foreign policy and strategic implications. In "educational" hearings the last few weeks, its disarmament subcommittee has gone into the technical details of an antimissile defense system in far greater depth than has yet been done by the Armed Services Committee.

The Armed Services Committee, whose military judgment used to go unchallenged in the Senate, has been thrown on the defensive.

In a secret session last fall, Senator J. W. Fulbright of Arkansas, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, wrung an acknowledgement out of Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, then chairman of the Armed Services Committee, that only Pentagon witnesses

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